

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSF-02 TRSE-00 OES-07 ABF-01
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 IO-14 INT-05 SS-15
DODE-00 EB-08 L-03 /081 W
-----109816 212116Z /63

R 211417Z FE B 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WAHDC 5148
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USLO RIYADH
AMEMBASSY TEHERAN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 AMMAN 1696

DEPARTMENT PASS NSF, NSF FOR BARTOCHA,
DEPARTMMENT PASS TREASURY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, JO
SUBJECT: NSF DEVEY DISCUSSIONS AT RSS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
CONFERENCE

1. DEVEY DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. RIDA OBAID MOST PRODUCTIVE
OBAID WISHES IMMEDIATELY ACTIVATE SEVERAL ELEMENTS OF
PROJECT AGREEMENT AS NOTED BELOW. OBAID WILL BE ONLY
SANCST EMPLOYEE FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD. HE WILL DELAY
FORMATION OF BAORD OF DIRECTORS UNTIL HE HAS SOMETHING
TANGIBLE FOR THEM TO CONSIDER (I.E. VISIBLE ACTIVITY
SUCH AS COMPLETE WORK PLANS). RECENTLY OBAID INVITED
YOUSIF ALTURKI TO BE RESIDENT USF LIAISON OFFICER BUT
YOUSIF NOW HAPPILY SETTLED IN CAIRO REFUSED OFFER.

2. DISCUSSION AT NSF ON 2 MARCH TO INCLUDE
REVIEW OF PROJECT AGREEMENT ESPECIALLY STAFFING
AND BUDGET FOR NSF/SANCST PROGRAM OFFICE, OPERATING
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GUIDELINES, AND WORK PLAN FOR TASK I. DECISIONS
REACHED ON 2 MARCH TO BE INCORPORATED IN APPROPRIATE
WORK PLANS FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL AT 14 MARCH
MEETING. BRIEFING BOOK NEEDED FOR SAUDI DELEGATION
WITH AS MUCH DEAIL AS POSSIBLE ABOUT AGENDA ITEMS.

3. RE SCIENTIFIC RESOURCES INVENTORY. OBAID AGRES WITH MAY-JUNE

PERIOD FOR TEAM VISIT TO
SAUDI ARABIA; ANALYSIS OF RESULTS AT SNF DURING
JULY-SEPT; FOLLOW-UP VISITS LATER TO SAUDI ARABIA
AS NEEDED. SAUDI UNIVERSITY FACULTY TO ASSIST NSF
TEAM IN-COUNTRY. RSESUTLS OF INVENTORY MUST BE
COMPUTERIZED AND COMPATIBLE WITH OTHER SAUDI SYSTEMS.

4. RE S/T INFO SYSTEM. OBAID DESIRES THROUGH
STUDY OF U.S. STI SYSTEMS INCLUDING SATELLITE
FACILITIES (TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ARABSAT CAPABILITIES)
FOR LINKING WITH AND BETWEEN SAUDI INSTITUTIONS
AND INTEGRATED WITH EXISTING SERVICES (UPM"/
LOCKHEED, FOR EXAMPLE), INCLUDING THOSE OF MINISTRY
OF INFORMATION.

5. RE HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND SCIENCE MUSEUM. OBAID
BELIEVES THAT SANCST ITSELF INAPPROPRIATE BUT SANCST
COULD PROVIDE FUNDING FOR REGIONAL UNIVERISTY AFFILIATED
SCIENCE MUSEUMS IN FUTURE.

6. RE BIO-SALINE. OBAID EXPRESSED POSITIVE INTEREST
FOR ACTIVE SANCST PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL
WORKING GROUP AND WILL DISCUSS FURTHER DURING MARCH
VISITS. FUNDS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN NEW NSF BUDGET
REQUIREMENTS. (KISR DEFINITELY INTERESTED TO CO-
SPONSOR ALONG WITH SANCST.)
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7. OBAID REQUESTS SUGGESTIONS FOR SMALL SCIENCE
APPLICATIONS PROJECT THAT COULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY
TO GIVE SANCST VISABILITY AND EARLY SUCCESS, SUCH
AS A DEMONSTRATION OF BARLEY GROWING IN SAND AND
IRRIGATED BY SEAWATER. PLEASE BE INNOVATIVE.

8. OBAID VERY SENSITIVE TO NEED FOR EARLY
PARTICIPATION OF SAUDI UNIVERSITIES IN SANCST
ACTIVITIES AND COMPOSITION OF HIS DELEGATION REFLECTS
THIS. NSF-STYLE GRANTS WITH INDIVIDUAL P.I. TO BEGIN
ASAP AND TIMETABLE "CONTRACT RESEARCH" PRO-
JECTS FOR RESEARCH INSTITUTES SOON AFTERWARDS.
SANCST BY LAWS REQUIRE SERVICE TO ALL SAUDI

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 AMMAN 1696

DEPARTMENT PASS NSF, NSF FOR BATOCHA,
DEPARTMENT PASS TREASURY

E.O. 11652: N/A
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SUBJECT: NSF DEVEY DISUCSSIONS AT RSS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
CONFERENCE

INSTITUTIONS TO EMPLOY S AND T IN SUPPORT OF THE
DEVELOPMENT PLAN ESSENTIAL CRITERION FOR ALL
NSF/SANCST PROGRAM OFFICE ACITIVITIES. IT FOLLOWS
THAT SANCST PORJECTS WILL BE PRINCIPALLY APPLIED
REASEARCH, APPLICATIONS OR SERIVE PORJECTS. DR.
OBAID AGREED THAT HASIC RESEARCH COULD BE JUSTIFIED
IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES (I.S. BIOSALINE WHERE
THE POTENTIAL PAYOFF FOR ECONOMIC FEVELOPMENT IS
ENORMOUS BUTT MANY YEARS AWAY).

9. FOR POLAR PORGRAMS (CAMERON). CROWN PRINCE
HASSAN AND PRINCE MOHAMMAD AL FAISAL BOTH DESIRE
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VISIT ANTARTICA. PRINCE MOHAMMAD SAID HE WOULD
PROVIDE ALL NECESSARY EQUIPMENT BUT DI NOT
ELEBORATE.

10. FOR OGC (SINIDER). DIRECTOR GENERAL OF KISR
BELIEGVES MARKED-UP VERNON OF DRAFT AGREEMENT
RECENTLY SHWON TO YOU IS OK AND WILL REVIEW IT

WITH HIS LEGAL ADVISORS. HE WILL BE IN U.S. IN
LATE MARCH AND WOULD HOPE TO SIGN AGREEMENT THEN
IF DIFFERENCES CAN BE RESOLVED.

11. RSS MEETING. BEING TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY
BY CROWN PRINCE HASSAN, HIS ADVISORS AND THE DELEGATES.
THE REPORT OF THE MEETING SHOULD BE MAJOR CONTRIBU-
TION TO S/T POLICY DETERMINATION FOR DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES AND VERY ILLUMINATING FOR NATIONS NOW
CONSIDERED ALREADY MORE DEVELOPED.

12. FOR INT (DOYON). LONG DISCUSSION WITH BAHMAN
PARSA UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE RESEARCH, IRAN,
REVEALED HE HAS LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF NSF MODUS
OPERANDI. SUGGEST THROUGH BRIEFING DURING DISCUSSIONS
24 FEB. PLEASE PROVIDE PARSA WITH COPY
NSF 77-78 SCIENCE APPLICATIONS REPORT AND OTHER
PERTINENT DOCUMENTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978AMMAN01696
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780078-0825
Format: TEL
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780235/aaaabczt.tel
Line Count: 189
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b01061d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3541822
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NSF DEVEY DISCUSSIONS AT RSS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE
TAGS: TGEN, OSCI, TPHY, JO, (DEVEY, GILBERT), (OBAID, RIDA)
To: STATE JIDDA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b01061d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014